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CO, Hq. 66th CIC Group, USAREUR, APO 154, US Army
Attn: Mr. W.L. Parkinson, CS Office

1 February 1955

T.C. Hughes, OCA

BfV Personnel

Re: STRUEBING, Johannes, Alias STAHLMANN, Johannes, born 24 February 1907 in BERLIN

1. SUBJECT is presently employed by the Bundesamt fuer Verfassungsschutz in the capacity of a "freie Mitarbeiter" and serves as a case officer in the BfV's operational counter espionage Section (Referat) II/G.

2. Reference is made to my memoranda of 27 December 1954 and 12 January 1955, file Bv-54-2877 and Bv-55-81 respectively, both, Subj: Bundesamt fuer Verfassungsschutz, Re: The Elli KINDERMANN Case, in which it was reported to your Headquarters that there exists the possibility that criminal charges may be lodged against SUBJECT on the basis of his participation in those dubious aspects of the BfV's conduct of the Elli KINDERMANN case.

3. In a conversation with BfV Section II/G case officer Rolf BOEHM-TETTELACH on 18 January 1955, BOEHM indicated that, contrary to other reports and this reporter's impression, STRUEBING bore more responsibility than Hans PIETSCH, former BfV Section II/G head, for the fraudulent reporting and deception practices by the BfV in the KINDERMANN case. BOEHM's implication was that PIETSCH had been persuaded by STRUEBING that it was necessary to conduct the case in such a manner and that PIETSCH, as STRUEBING's superior, had been obliged to take the responsibility and the consequences of it.

4. BOEHM's comment, however, must be taken with considerable reserve in view of his long-standing dislike of STRUEBING, a dislike which has been previously evidenced on occasion by BOEHM to me and which is ostensibly based on BOEHM's disapproval of STRUEBING's former Gestapo connection. During the 18 January conversation, BOEHM also stated that hardly anyone within the BfV speaks to STAHLMANN any more, adding rather obscurely that even BfV "freie Mitarbeiter" and II/G case officer Erich WENGER alias Eduard WOLTERS does not speak to STRUEBING now.

5. In a recent conversation with BfV Vice President Albert RADKE with respect to the KINDERMANN affair, he was asked for his opinion as to what action might be taken with respect to STRUEBING by the BfV if criminal charges were indeed lodged against him. RADKE said that inasmuch as STRUEBING was a "freie Mitarbeiter", as distinguished from an official employee, a disciplinary procedure could not be undertaken against him but that the Interior Ministry might demand that he be discharged from the service of the

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BfV. RADKE added that STRUEBING, because of his "freie Mitarbeiter" status, was no longer working within BfV Headquarters in COLOGNE but had offices in COLOGNE in a covert "Stadt Buero" (city office) in the city. He did not state the location of the office.

6. For your information.

Control copy to:
Mr. W.L. Parkinson

C
psnl STAHLMAHN
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